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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 35th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. KAHN (Pakistan)

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 87: MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS (continued)

(c) EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

(d) NET TRANSFER OF RESOURCES BETWEEN DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 88: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued)

(a) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

(c) COMMODITIES (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 92: AGENDA FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

DRAFT BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SECOND COMMITTEE FOR 1995-1996

CONCLUSION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

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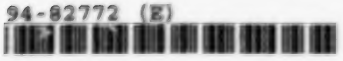

The meeting was called to order at 3.25 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.35 and L.78)

Draft resolutions on public administration and development (A/C.2/49/L.35 and L.78)

1. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.78, submitted on the basis of informal consultations on A/C.2/49/L.35. In the eighth preambular paragraph, the phrase "to the appropriate authorities within the national context" in the second line should be deleted. It was also understood that the duration of the resumed fiftieth session of the General Assembly would be not more than two weeks.

2. Mr. AMAZIANE (Morocco), supported by Mr. DELACROIX (France), drew attention to some editorial changes needed in the French text and requested that the eighth preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 2 to 7 should be brought into line with the English text.

3. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.78, as orally revised, was adopted.

4. Ms. YANG Yanyi (China) said that her delegation attached great importance to the draft resolution just adopted; it believed that the strengthening of public administration would promote economic growth and sustainable development. Public administration was a matter pertaining to the internal affairs of States, however, and it would be difficult to achieve uniformity in practice. Thus, policy debates should be conducted with caution. In the view of her delegation, the text was balanced; therefore, it had been able to join the consensus. It hoped that the draft resolution would raise awareness of the importance of public administration and development and would help to provide policy guidance and coordination. Countries must exchange experience in the field on the basis of respect for national sovereignty.

5. Mr. SINON (Malaysia) said that his delegation had joined the consensus on the draft resolution, but wished to stress that activities should focus on effectiveness and efficiency and on capacity-building.

6. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.35 was withdrawn.

7. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should take note of the relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/48/3 and Add.1), the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (A/49/179-E/1994/82), the report of the Secretary-General on resource mobilization for the implementation of the regional action programme for phase II (1992-1996) of the Transport and Communication Decade for Asia and the Pacific (A/49/437), the note by the Secretary-General on working with non-governmental organizations (A/49/122-E/1994/44 and Add.1), the note by the Secretary-General on the United Nations Population Award (A/49/189), the note by the Secretary-General on the review of arrangements for consultations with non-governmental organizations (A/49/215-

E/1994/99 and Corr.1), and the note by the Secretary-General on the review and assessment of efforts to restructure the regional dimension of United Nations economic and social activities (A/49/423).

8. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 87: MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.7, L.12, L.69 and L.76)

(c) EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolutions on enhanced international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries (A/C.2/49/L.12 and L.76)

9. Mr. HAMBURGER (the Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.76, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.12.

10. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.76 was adopted.

11. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, reaffirmed the importance they attached to debt relief. The consensus adoption of the resolution was a sign of the increasing awareness that debt was a serious issue, and he hoped that the international community would take it into consideration in future action to provide relief of all types of debt.

12. Mr. DUGAN (United States of America) pointed out that the draft resolution did not call for relief of all types of debt.

13. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.12 was withdrawn.

(d) NET TRANSFER OF RESOURCES BETWEEN DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (continued)

Draft resolutions on net flows and transfer of resources between developing countries and developed countries (A/C.2/49/L.7 and L.69)

14. Mr. HAMBURGER (the Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.69, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.7.

15. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.69 was adopted.

16. Mr. KOBAYASHI (Japan) said that, while his delegation had joined the consensus, it was concerned that the wording of paragraph 1 (m) would raise undue expectations of international assistance. As yet, concrete measures had not yet evolved to address the problem in question.

17. Mr. DUGAN (United States of America) said that, while he shared the concerns expressed by Japan with regard to paragraph 1 (m), the consensus

adoption of the draft resolution was a productive example of the atmosphere of cooperation which had prevailed in the Committee.

18. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.7 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 88: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.29/Rev.1, L.32, L.34, L.36, L.38, L.43, L.49, L.64, L.65, L.68, L.72, L.73 and L.75)

Draft resolutions on United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (A/C.2/49/L.49 and L.75)

19. Ms. KELLEY (Secretary of the Committee), reporting on the conference-servicing implications of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.75, said that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, it would decide to convene, in consultation with Member States, an intergovernmental meeting of experts in 1995 within existing resources or extrabudgetary resources in New York. Based on the assumption that the meeting would not exceed a duration of five days, that interpretation services would be required in the six official languages for two meetings per day, and based on preliminary estimates of a maximum of 40 pages of pre- and in-session documentation, the meeting could be accommodated in New York from 31 July to 4 August 1995.

20. It should, however, be noted that, in conformity with General Assembly resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985 and 47/202 of 22 December 1992, United Nations bodies should meet at their respective headquarters. The proposal to hold the meeting in New York rather than Geneva would require an exception to the principles established and reaffirmed by the Assembly.

21. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity would need to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources could be determined only in the light of the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1994-1995. Provision was made under section 25 of the proposed programme budget for 1994-1995, however, for meetings authorized subsequent to budget preparation. Consequently, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, no additional appropriation would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

22. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.75, submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.49. In the tenth preambular paragraph, the phrase "all countries, particularly between" should be added to the last line after the word "between".

23. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria) said that the first preambular paragraph should include a reference to the International Conference on Population and Development.

24. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.75, as orally revised, was adopted.

25. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution by consensus and the spirit of cooperation which had prevailed during the negotiations. He wished to reaffirm the importance which the developing countries attached to South-South

cooperation. The United Nations system should play a role not only in strengthening North-South ties but also in strengthening ties among developing countries. The Group of 77 and China sincerely hoped that the General Assembly at its fiftieth session would take a decision on the practical arrangements for convening a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation in 1996.

26. Mr. ELISSEEV (Ukraine) said that his country had joined the consensus on the understanding that the phrase "all countries", which had been added to the tenth preambular paragraph, included the countries with economies in transition.

27. Mr. SINON (Malaysia) also welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution by consensus. He thanked the developed countries for the understanding and support they had shown. His delegation was pleased that they were aware of the potential global benefits of South-South cooperation. Malaysia was fully committed to South-South cooperation and would continue to play an active role in promoting it. In that context, it looked forward to the early convening of a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation.

28. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), replying to the Ukrainian representative, confirmed that the phrase "all countries" included countries other than developing countries. He expressed satisfaction at the interest and support which other countries had shown in the strengthening of South-South cooperation.

29. Mr. MOJOUKHOV (Belarus) said that his delegation, too, welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution and stressed the importance of enhanced support for South-South cooperation. The practical implementation of the resolution would be vital to the promotion of development in different areas and to a world-wide partnership, based on regional, interregional and international cooperation.

30. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.49 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 88: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.34 and L.72)

(a) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolutions on international trade and development (A/C.2/49/L.34 and L.72)

31. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.72, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.34, and recommended it for adoption by the Committee.

32. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.72 was adopted.

33. Mr. GOUMENNY (Ukraine) said that his delegation had joined the consensus, but felt that the draft resolution should be balanced, universal, strategic and practical.

34. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.34 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 88: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.38 and L.73)

(a) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolutions on a United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency (A/C.2/49/L.38 and L.73)

35. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.73, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.38. He drew the Committee's attention to a correction in paragraph 7, where the word "quality" should be changed to "equality".

36. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.73, as orally revised, was adopted.

37. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.38 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 88: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.29/Rev.1)

(c) COMMODITIES (continued)

Draft resolution on commodities (A/C.2/49/L.29/Rev.1)

38. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.29/Rev.1, said that a consensus had been reached. He recommended the draft resolution for adoption.

39. Mr. ALIOU (Cameroon) drew the Committee's attention to a minor editing change in the final preambular paragraph, where the word "in" should be deleted from the first line.

40. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.29/Rev.1 was adopted.

41. Mr. DUGAN (United States of America) said that his delegation had joined the consensus, as it had in the past, because the draft resolution acknowledged the recent reversal in the declining trend of commodity prices. None the less, the remarkable increase in commodity prices since the beginning of the year - 21 per cent, according to data from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) - should have been more accurately reflected, particularly in the fifth preambular paragraph. The resolution remained generally unbalanced. It gave the impression that a crisis existed when in fact the situation had been improving. It was unduly preoccupied with the achievement of stable and predictable prices in a market where, by nature, prices were uncertain. That problem would not be resolved by subverting the market through price administration or cartel arrangements, which history had shown to be ineffective. With the assistance of the international community, commodity-dependent developing countries should be able to implement economic reform policies which would enable them to participate in the international marketplace in a manner that was beneficial to all.

42. Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, expressed appreciation for the flexibility and spirit of compromise which had made it possible to achieve consensus. He reiterated the importance which the Group of 77 and China attached to the question of commodity prices; it was to be hoped that the practical provisions of the draft resolution would be translated into reality and that the implementation of reforms and the development of national capacities in commodity-dependent countries would help to relieve their economic problems. In that connection, it was also to be hoped that the upward trend in commodity prices would continue for a sufficient period of time.

43. Mr. MOJOUKHOV (Belarus) said that his delegation had joined in the consensus because it was aware of the importance of the draft resolution for many developing countries, particularly the African and least developed countries. However, the draft resolution was important for other countries as well. Belarus, a commodity-importing country and, to some extent, a commodity-exporting country, also attached importance to some of the concepts contained in the draft resolution, particularly in the fifth preambular paragraph and in paragraphs 3, 12 and 14. The draft resolution represented but a beginning, and his delegation hoped the question would be considered at the fiftieth session of the General Assembly in a more universal context.

44. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the 1994 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development (A/49/378), the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "A review of the specific development needs of small Member States and the responsiveness of the United Nations system to these needs (A/49/424 and Add.1), the note by the Secretariat on the United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation (A/49/541).

45. It was so decided.

46. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 88 as a whole.

AGENDA ITEM 92: AGENDA FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.41 and L.70)

Draft resolutions on an agenda for development (A/C.2/49/L.41 and L.70)

47. The CHAIRMAN introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.70, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.41, and expressed the hope that it would be adopted by consensus.

48. Ms. KELLEY (Secretary of the Committee) read out a statement of the conference-servicing implications of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.70. She referred to paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, which established an ad hoc open-ended working group of the General Assembly to further elaborate an action-oriented, comprehensive agenda for development which should begin its work as early as possible in 1995. The working group would require interpretation services in the six official languages for two meetings per day and 50 pages of pre-, in-, and post-session documentation (a total of 150 pages). It would meet for a total of five weeks, including one week after the organizational session of the Economic and Social Council (13-17 February 1995), two weeks during the

spring of 1995 (15-26 May) and two weeks prior to or after the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in 1995. Given the heavy schedule of meetings in the economic and social sectors, any dates for subsequent meetings of the working group in 1995 would overlap with already scheduled meetings in the economic and social fields. However, under section 25 of the proposed programme budget for 1994-1995, provision was made not only for meetings programmed at the time of budget preparation but also for meetings authorized subsequently. Consequently, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/49/L.70, no additional appropriation would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

49. Ms. YANG Yanyi (China) requested that the Chinese translation of the title of the draft resolution should be changed to the version commonly used.

50. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.70 was adopted.

51. Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria) noted that the dates just proposed by the Secretariat conflicted with the dates of other important meetings and wondered whether they were open to discussion. On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, he expressed satisfaction at the adoption of the draft resolution. In particular, he wished to thank the Chairman for personally presiding over the negotiations which had led to a consensus. Indeed, the Group of 77, which, since its inception, had championed the cause of development, had agreed to accept a Chairman's text because it was aware of the Chairman's personal commitment, and his country's commitment, to the promotion of development. The Group of 77 and China also wished to express their appreciation to those countries which had indicated a desire to sponsor the original draft resolution.

52. Mr. FLORENCIO (Brazil) praised the spirit of cooperation and dialogue which had prevailed during the informal consultations he had conducted and acknowledged, in particular, the contributions made by the Group of 77, the European Union and all regional groups. He hoped that the same spirit of cooperation would prevail during the meetings of the ad hoc open-ended working group.

53. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.41 was withdrawn.

54. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 92.

DRAFT BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SECOND COMMITTEE FOR 1995-1996 (A/C.2/49/L.63)

55. Mr. BUNCH (Chief, Programme and Documentation Planning Section), introducing the draft biennial programme of work contained in the annex to document A/C.2/49/L.63, said that under item 1 of the draft programme for 1995, a new topic entitled "Public administration and development" should be added, with the documentation listed as "Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council and the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.2/49/L.78) c/". Concerning the documentation listed under item 2 (a) the words "financing for" should be inserted between the words "of" and "development". Under item 3 (a), in the

resolution number, "L.34" should be replaced by "L.72 and L.73". An item 3 (j) entitled "United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation" should be added with the documentation listed as "Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 48/60)". Under item 4 (d), a second entry relating to documentation should be added, reading "Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the final report of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change (General Assembly resolution 47/195)". Under item 5 (b), "; draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.75" should be added in the bracketed reference at the end of the fourth report listed, while the fifth report should be deleted. Under item 7, the resolution number should read "A/C.2/49/L.70". Item 9 should now be entitled "International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations Conference on Migration and Development", while "General Assembly resolution A/C.2/49/L.47" should be replaced by "General Assembly resolution A/C.2/49/L.74" and the reference to the report of the Preparatory Committee should be deleted. Item 11 should be deleted along with its documentation.

56. In the draft programme for 1996, under item 2 (c) the resolution number should read "A/C.2/49/L.69". In the reference to the third document listed under item 3 (a), the resolution number should read "A/C.2/49/L.68". In the title of the document immediately beneath that, the words "system of the newly independent and developing" should be replaced by the words "environment in the". Under item 3 (e), "Commodities", the resolution number should read "A/C.2/49/L.29/Rev.1". Item 7 together with its relevant documentation should be deleted.

57. The draft biennial programme of work was an indicative programme which was subject to change. Inasmuch as possible, the Secretariat had followed the programme of the Second Committee, the agenda items and sub-items as listed in General Assembly resolution 48/124 on restructuring. With respect to General Assembly resolution 48/162, he drew the Committee's attention to agenda items 7, 8, 9 and 10 which were additions to the draft programme of work for 1995.

58. Mr. BELHIMEGUR (Algeria) said that amendments would have to be made to the references to a world conference on public administration, as the resolution just adopted mentioned a resumed session of the General Assembly. Concerning the programme of work for 1996, a key sub-item on debt was missing. He wondered whether that subject would be added to the list of the programme of work for 1996 under item 2 on macroeconomic policy issues. Finally, the programme of work should be without prejudice to any important questions that Member States might wish, on the eve of the General Assembly session or at the end of the Economic and Social Council session, to add to the preliminary list of the programme of work for the 1995 and 1996 sessions.

59. Mr. GOUMENA (Ukraine) said that his delegation would like the Second Committee to continue, as it had done for many years, considering the report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/206 of 21 December 1993 on strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. Accordingly, that item should figure in the addendum to the programme of work for the biennium.

60. Mr. JOMAA (Tunisia) said that he agreed with the representative of Algeria's remarks concerning the item on debt and the addition of other items to the programme of work for 1995 and 1996.

61. Mr. BIAOU (Benin), referring to item 3 (h) of the work programme for 1995, wondered whether only one report would be submitted to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session. His delegation had understood when resolution A/C.2/49/L.53 had been adopted that two reports, one pursuant to resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992 and 48/184 of 21 December 1993 and the other on the preparations for the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty in 1996 would be submitted. The negotiations conducted on the subject had made it clear that the reports would not be combined. In the listing of the report requested for the fiftieth session, the reference should be to the resolution of the forty-eighth session.

62. Mr. BUNCH (Chief, Programme and Documentation Planning Section) said with regard to the concerns of the representatives of Algeria and Tunisia with regard to the omission of the debt issue that the list for the programme of work for 1996 was an indicative one. According to annex II to General Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993, the Second Committee was to discuss that question on an annual basis. However, as he had indicated in the previous year, if at the current session there was a mandate for supporting documentation for 1996, it would be listed in the programme of work. That not being currently the case, it had not been listed. The representative of Algeria had correctly noted that the programme of action would be without prejudice to what might happen in the future. In response to the concern of the representative of Ukraine, he noted that according to annex II to General Assembly resolution 48/162, a sub-item entitled "Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster" was to be discussed not in the Second Committee but in plenary. On the representative of Benin's question regarding item 3 (h), he had followed the indications given by the substantive office in regard to the document. He would doublecheck the documentation with that office to ascertain whether one or two reports were to be produced. In citing the resolutions, the Secretariat had chosen to indicate resolution 47/196 as it had a clearer mandate.

63. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft biennial programme of work for 1995-1996 contained in document A/C.2/49/L.63, as orally revised.

64. It was so decided.

CONCLUSION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

65. After an exchange of courtesies in which Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria) spoke on behalf of all the delegations to the Second Committee, The CHAIRMAN declared that the Second Committee had completed its work for the forty-ninth session.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.